

Appl. No. 10/718,234
Reply to Office Action of 3/02/06

Attorney Docket No. 11721-037

I. Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] In operation, as air or fluid is injected by, for example, an air reservoir 49 into bladder 44 the distance between vehicle body 50 and vehicle axle 52 is increased, thereby raising the vehicle body 50 with respect to the ground. Conversely, as air or fluid is expelled from bladder 44 the distance between vehicle body 50 and vehicle axle 52 is decreased, thereby lowering the vehicle with respect to the ground. Vehicle suspension unit 24 would be provided in a similar fashion on each side of the front and rear of vehicle 12 proximate each front and rear wheels.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] In an initial inflated condition, as shown in FIG. 2, vehicle suspension unit 24 has a predefined height H1. Predefined height H1 provides a corresponding suspension height, as prescribed by the vehicle manufacturer for normal driving conditions. After a prescribed amount of air or fluid is released from bladder 44, as shown in FIG. 3, vehicle suspension unit 24 has a predefined height H2. Predefined height H2 is less than predefined height H1 and may be controlled to drop and thus rotate the body 50 of vehicle 12 counter to the direction of the rollover. Preferably, H2 is four to ten inches shorter than ~~H4~~, H1; however, H2 may be any desirable distance necessary to prevent the vehicle from rolling over.

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Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] If, however, at block 110, the method determines that the vehicle is not in a turn and that the vehicle is on an incline, as represented by block 116, then the method activates the suspension units proximate to the wheels of the vehicle that are on the uphill side of the vehicle, as represented by block 118. In other words, the suspension units proximate to the wheels of the vehicle that will lose contact with the road surface first during vehicle rollover will be actuated and lowered. Alternatively or in conjunction with lowering the uphill side of the vehicle, the suspension units proximate to each wheel adjacent a downhill side of the incline may be raised. The control and activation of the suspension units would be conducted as described immediately hereinabove.

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] In an alternate embodiment of the present invention, a pyrotechnic device 80 may be used to inflate bladder 44 of suspension unit 24. The pyrotechnic device 80 may be any device, such as those used in airbag inflation systems and seatbelt systems, which release a gas upon actuation. For example, a pyrotechnic device 80 that includes compressed liquefied argon or helium or any other cold compressed gas liquid may be used. Inflation of the bladder of suspension unit 24 is useful to prevent a rollover in certain vehicle driving conditions such as when the vehicle is on an incline. One or more of the bladders

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of the suspension units that are compressed due to the roll moment would be injected with the expanding gas from the pyrotechnic device 80.

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